

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

I. RESOURCE SUMMARY

	Budget Authority (in Millions)		
	2005	2006	2007
	Final	Enacted	Request
Drug Resources by Function			
Prevention	\$590.500	\$490.921	\$165.893
Total Drug Resources by Function	\$590.500	\$490.921	\$165.893
Drug Resources by Decision Unit			
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities			
National Programs	\$153.119	\$144.421	\$165.893
State Grant Program	437.381	346.500	-
Total Drug Resources by Decision Unit	\$590.500	\$490.921	\$165.893

Drug Resources Personnel Summary			
Total FTEs (direct only)	-	-	-
Drug Resources as a Percent of Budget			
Total Agency Budget (in billions)	\$56.6	\$57.6	\$54.4
Drug Resources Percentage	1.04%	0.85%	0.30%

II. PROGRAM SUMMARY

- The Department of Education (Education) administers programs to improve and help ensure that all students can achieve challenging standards in the areas of elementary and secondary education, special education and early intervention programs for children with disabilities, English language acquisition for limited English proficient and immigrant children, vocational and adult education, and higher education. In addition, Education carries out research, data collection, and civil rights enforcement activities.

The programs funded under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) Act comprise the only Education's programs included in the drug control budget. The SDFSC program provides funding for research-based approaches to drug and violence prevention. Under the SDFSC Act, funds may be appropriated directly for State Grants and for National Programs.

- **State Grant Program:** Funds are allocated by formula to states and territories, half on the basis of school-aged population and half on the basis of each state's share of the

prior-year's federal funding for "concentration grants to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) for improving the academic achievement of disadvantaged students" under section 1124A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Generally, Governors receive 20 percent and State Educational Agencies (SEAs) 80 percent, of each state's allocation. SEAs are required to subgrant at least 93 percent of allocations to LEAs; these subgrants are based 60 percent on LEA shares of prior-year funding under Part A, of Title I of the ESEA and 40 percent on enrollment. LEAs may use SDFSC State Grant funds for a wide variety of activities to prevent or reduce violence and delinquency and the use, possession, and distribution of illegal drugs, and thereby foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement. Governors may use funds to award competitive grants and contracts to LEAs, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations for activities to provide safe, orderly, and drug-free schools and communities through programs and activities that complement and support activities of LEAs.

- **National Programs:** Funds grants for drug and violence prevention programs and for activities to help promote safe and drug-free learning environments for students. SDFSC National Programs also authorizes 1) mentoring programs, 2) Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence, a crisis response program that provides education-related services to LEAs in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis), and 3) School Emergency Preparedness Initiatives. However, since these programs have no clear drug control nexus, funds for these three activities are not included in the drug control budget.

III. BUDGET SUMMARY

2006 Program

- The FY 2006 enacted level includes \$490.9 million for prevention activities that support the *Strategy*. This includes \$346.5 million for SDFSC State Grants and \$144.4 million for SDFSC National Programs. Within the SDFSC National Programs, \$10.4 million will be used to support school-based drug testing programs for students and to launch a national evaluation of student drug testing. Also within National Programs, \$79.2 million will support Education's share of the "Safe Schools/Healthy Students" initiative, which is funded jointly with the Department of Health and Human Services, for comprehensive programs between schools and communities that create safe, disciplined, and drug-free learning environments and promote healthy childhood development.

2007 Request

- The FY 2007 drug control request for Education's drug prevention activities totals \$165.9 million, a reduction of \$325.0 million from the FY 2006 enacted amount. Included in this reduction are a \$346.5 million decrease as a result of the elimination of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities State Grant Program and a decrease of \$32.4 million for the Alcohol Abuse Reduction Program. These reductions are partially offset by a

\$52.0 million increase to implement research-based drug prevention grants for local educational agencies, and a \$4.6 million increase for student drug testing.

- **SDFSC State Grants Program (Discontinued):** The President's FY 2007 Budget proposes to terminate funding for SDFSC State Grants, given the program's inability to demonstrate effectiveness and that grant funds are spread too thinly to support quality interventions. Instead, the request includes an increase for SDFSC National Programs activities that provide direct support to LEAs, in sufficient amounts to make a real difference. The Administration's SDFSC National Programs proposal will support drug prevention and school safety projects that are structured in a manner that permits grantees and independent evaluators to measure progress, hold projects accountable, and determine which interventions are most effective. Key proposals where increases are being requested for the SDFSC National Programs are discussed below.
- **SDFSC National Programs (\$165.9 million):** Programs supported within this request include \$15.0 million, an increase of \$4.6 million over FY 2006, to support continuation awards and initiate a new cohort of grants for school-based drug testing of students. Drug testing funded by these grants must be part of a comprehensive drug prevention program in the schools served, and provide for the referral to treatment or counseling of the students identified as drug users. The projects funded by these grants also must be consistent with recent Supreme Court decisions regarding student drug testing and must ensure the confidentiality of testing results. Of the amount requested a portion also would support the second year of a national evaluation of student drug testing, and establish a nationally representative database of student drug testing programs.

The President's Budget proposes an increase of \$52.0 million to support the implementation of Research-Based Grants to LEAs. This increase will support the implementation of drug prevention or school safety programs, policies, and strategies that research has demonstrated to be effective in reducing youth drug use or violence. It also will support the implementation of scientifically based evaluations of additional approaches to reducing youth drug use or violence that show promise of effectiveness. Under this proposed new activity, grantees would be required either to carry out one or more programs, practices, or interventions that rigorous evaluation has demonstrated to be effective, or to carry out a rigorous evaluation of a promising program, practice, or intervention to test its effectiveness and thereby increase the knowledge base on what works in the field. In making awards, the department would ensure the equitable distribution of grants among urban, suburban, and rural LEAs.

IV. PERFORMANCE

Summary

- This section on the accomplishments of the SDFSC program is drawn from the FY 2007 Budget Request and Plan, the FY 2005 Performance and Accountability Report, and the 2002 PART review. The table below includes conclusions from the PART assessment, including scores on program purpose, strategic planning, management, and results achieved.

Also included is a comparison of targets and achievements from the GPRA documents listed above for the latest year for which data are available. The outcome-oriented measures and selected output measures presented indicate how program performance is being monitored.

- The PART review concluded that the SDFSC State Grant program was “Ineffective,” due to the program’s inability to demonstrate effectiveness and the fact that grant funds are spread too thinly to support quality interventions.
- Outcome measures have been identified for National Program grant competitions and targets will be established in FY 2006 as baseline data become available.

Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities				
PART Review				
Last Year Reviewed		2002	Rating Received	
			Ineffective	
Evaluation Area	Score	Review Highlights Below:		
Purpose.....	60	The program failed to demonstrate effectiveness because it relied exclusively on national survey data that do not reflect program performance. Grant funds are spread too thinly to support quality interventions.		
Planning.....	57			
Management...	38			
Results.....	0			
Selected Measures of Performance				
Selected Outcome-Oriented Measures			FY 2005 Target	FY 2005 Achieved
SDFSC State Grant Program				
■ The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during the past 12 months.			28	*
■ The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days.			21	*
■ The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (that is, within a couple of hours) one or more times during the past 30 days.			27	*
■ The percentage of drug and violence prevention programs/practices supported with SDFSC State Grant funds that are research-based.			**	***
■ The percentage of drug and violence prevention programs/practices supported with SDFSC State Grant funds that are implemented with fidelity.			**	****
SDFSC National Programs				
■ The percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees whose target students show a measurable decrease in binge drinking.			**	***
■ The percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees that show a measurable increase in the percentage of target students who believe that alcohol abuse is harmful to their health.			**	***
■ The percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees that show a measurable increase in the percentage of target students who disapprove of alcohol abuse.			**	***
■ The percentage of Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant sites that experience a decrease in substance use during the 3-year grant period.			**	***
■ The percentage of grantees experiencing a 5 percent annual reduction in the incidence of drug use by students in the target population served by these grants.			**	***
Selected Output Measures			Target	Achieved
■ # awards -- drug testing initiative			-	63
■ # awards -- safe school/healthy students			-	85
■ # awards -- postsecondary prevention			-	20

* 2005 data to be available in 2006.

** Not Established: Targets to be established once baseline data become available.

*** Baseline data expected to be available in 2006.

**** Baseline data expected to be available in 2006 or later.

Note: Measures for the SDFSC State Grant Program are based on YRBS, a biennial survey. The rest of the measures are based on departmental analysis.

Discussion

- The 2002 PART rating of “Ineffective” for the SDFSC State Grants reflected the program’s failure to demonstrate effectiveness, relying as it did on national surveys that did not reflect program performance. The review recommended performance measures that would help improve local programming decisions.
- The PART review also cited the 2001 RAND study, which concluded the structure of the SDFSC State Grant program was “fundamentally flawed,” with grant funds being spread too thinly to support quality interventions.
- Education has established outcome measures for individual SDFSC National Programs grant competitions. For example, for school-based drug testing of students, the department has set a target of a 5 percent annual reduction in drug use by students in the target population served by these grants.
- The Safe Schools/Healthy Students initiative provides support to local educational agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to create safe, disciplined, and drug-free environments. Although performance information for this program is not currently available, one example of results achieved by this initiative comes from the Covington, Kentucky Safe Schools/Healthy Students project. During the grant, tobacco use declined for all age groups, with 12th graders reporting use 43 percent less frequently than they did before the grant began. Alcohol use also declined, with a 40 percent reduction in the number of eighth graders reporting use. The project also reported a 21 percent reduction in marijuana use among eighth graders.